

Docket No.: 21 581-00240-US
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Nishiyama et al.

Reissue Application No. Not Assigned

Patent No.: 6,340,767 B1

Filed: Herewith

Issued: January 22, 2002

For: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 5-
HYDROXY-3-OXOPENTANOIC ACID
DERIVATIVES

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS REISSUE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

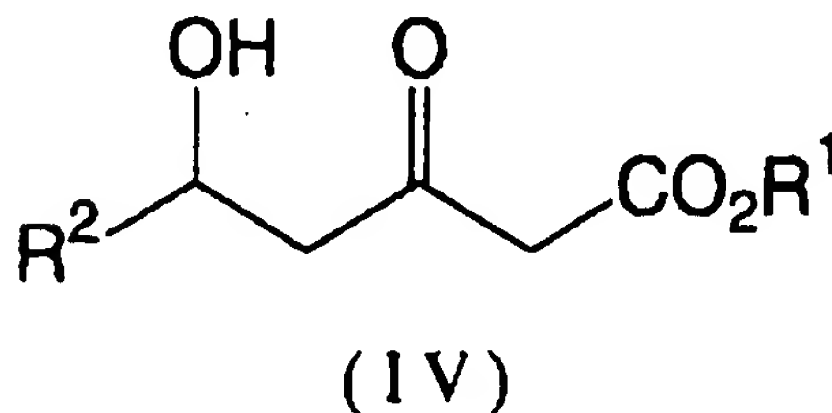
Please amend the application as discussed below.

In The Claims:

Please cancel claims 4, 19 and 20.

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A process for producing a 5-hydroxy-3-oxopentanoic acid derivative of the following formula (IV):



wherein R¹ represents any of an alkyl group of 1 to 12 carbon atoms, an aryl group of 6 to 12 carbon atoms and an aralkyl group of 7 to 12 carbon atoms; and R² represents any